

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

Illinois Commerce Commission	:
On its own Motion	:
	:
In Support of September 13-19, 2015	:
as “Illinois Rail Safety” Week	:

RESOLUTION

By the Commission:

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has the 2nd largest rail system, 53 railroads operating over 7,400 miles, of any state in the country; and

WHEREAS, with over 10,800, Illinois has the 2nd most highway-rail crossings of any state in the country; and

WHEREAS, **134** crashes occurred at public highway-rail grade crossings, resulting in **55** personal injuries and **24** fatalities in the State of Illinois during 2014; and

WHEREAS, **48** trespassing incidents occurred in the State of Illinois during 2014, resulting in **29** pedestrians being killed and another **19** injured while trespassing on railroad property rights of way; and

WHEREAS, Illinois ranks **2nd** in the nation in grade crossing fatalities and **3rd** in trespass fatalities for 2014; and

WHEREAS, over **67** percent of crashes occur at public grade crossings equipped with active warning devices; and

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety, reminding the public that railroad right of ways are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway-rail grade crossing, will reduce the number of fatalities and injuries to Illinoisans; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, Illinois Operation Lifesaver, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Police, Chicago Police, all local and railroad law enforcement, first responders and area railroad companies commit to partnering together in an effort to educate Illinois residents on all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable state laws and to support Illinois Rail Safety Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Illinois Commerce Commission supports the week of September 13-19, 2015, as "Illinois Rail Safety" Week and encourages that all persons traveling on Illinois roadways or traversing public grade crossings as pedestrians, on bicycles, or on non-motorized vehicles, exercise caution when approaching railroad tracks and stay off of Railroad Rights of Way.

(SIGNED) BRIEN SHEAHAN
Chairman